

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. For use with a Universal Serial Bus (USB) signal, a performance indication system, comprising:

a rate discrimination subsystem configured to provide a determination of a data transfer rate of said USB signal corresponding to a full-speed operation and a high-speed operation; and

a condition indication subsystem coupled to said rate discrimination subsystem and configured to provide a signal indicating said data transfer rate.

2. The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein at least a portion of said performance indication system is contained in a USB cable assembly.

3. The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein at least a portion of said performance indication system is contained in a peripheral device.

4. The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein at least a portion of said condition indication subsystem employs a visual display.

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2 5. The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1
3 wherein at least a portion of said condition indication subsystem
employs an audible device.

2 6. The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1
3 wherein said determination of said data transfer rate is based on
an outcome of a chirping process.

2 7. The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1
3 wherein said rate discrimination subsystem employs a control signal
associated with a USB signal.

8. A method of operating a performance indication system for
use with a Universal Serial Bus (USB) signal, comprising:
determining a data transfer rate of said USB signal
corresponding to a full-speed operation and a high-speed operation;
and
indicating said data transfer rate.

9. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said determining
and said indicating is performed in circuitry contained in a USB
cable assembly.

10. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said determining
and said indicating is performed in circuitry contained in a
peripheral device.

11. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein at least a
portion of said indicating said data transfer rate employs a visual
display.

12. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein at least a
portion of said indicating said data transfer rate employs an
audible device.

15. A computer system, comprising:

a central processing unit associated with a keyboard, a pointing device and a monitor; and

a performance indication system, including:

a rate discrimination subsystem that is configured to provide a determination of a data transfer rate of a Universal Serial Bus (USB) signal corresponding to a full-speed operation and a high-speed operation; and

a condition indication subsystem, coupled to said rate discrimination subsystem, that is configured to provide a signal indicating said data transfer rate.

16. The computer system as recited in Claim 15 further comprising a USB cable assembly, at least a portion of said performance indication system being contained in said USB cable assembly.

17. The computer system as recited in Claim 15 further comprising a peripheral device, at least a portion of said performance indication system being contained in said peripheral device.

18. The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein at
2 least a portion of said condition indication subsystem employs a
3 visual display.

19. The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein at
2 least a portion of said condition indication subsystem employs an
3 audible device.

20. The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein said
2 determination of said data transfer rate is based on an outcome of
3 a chirping process.

21. The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein said
2 rate discrimination subsystem employs a control signal associated
3 with said USB signal.